

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 IO-14 EUR-25 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /134 W

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R 101030Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9575

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 9511

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR LE

SUBJ: LEBANESE POSITION RE POSTPONING RABAT ARAB SUMMIT AND
SAUDI FONMIN OMAR SAQQAF VISIT TO LEBANON

1. NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY AUG 8 REPORTS PRIME MINISTER
TAKIEDDINE SOLH SAID RE ARAB SUMMIT: "WE HOPE IT WILL
BE HELD ON SCHEDULE", BUT AS SOME BRETHREN HAVE ASKED
FOR POSTPONEMENT, WE SHALL DISCUSS REQ". INQUIRED
THIS MORING OF ACTING SECGEN MINFONAFF RE LEBANESE
POSITION, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: LEBANON
HOPES VOTE WITH THE MAJORITY RE RABAT SUMMIT.IT
WILL HOWEVER, NOT RPT NOT VOTE CONTRARY TO EGYPT OR
SAUDI ARABIA; IT ALSO WOULD NOT RPT NOT VOTE CONTRARY
TO SYRIA.

2. QUERIED SECGEN ON LATTER POINT, SAYING I UNDERSTAND
SYRIA DID NOT RPT NOT WISH POSTPONE SUMMIT. SECGEN
SAID SYRIAN POSITION CHANGED FOLLOWING VISIT OF SAUDI
FONMIN SAQQAF LAST TUESDAY, AUG 6. AUG 7 IN EVENING
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SAQQAF CAME TO BEIRUT FOLLOWING HIS CONFERENCE WITH

PRES ASSAD AND ON AUG 8 CONFERRED WITH PRES
FRANGIE. DURING LATTER CONVERSATION SAQQAF
INDICATED ASSAD HAD AGREED TO POSTPONEMENT OF SUMMIT
AND FRANGIE HAD TOLD HIM THAT LEBANESE WOULD ADOPT
SIMILAR POSITION BUT DESIRED AT PRESENT NOT RPT
NOT MAKE THIS KNOWN.

3. SEC GEN ALSO INDICATED SAQQAF AND FRANGIE HAD
DISCUSSED FEDAYEEN SITUATION IN LEBANON AND FAISAL-
SADAT CONVERSATIONS RECENTLY. HE DID NOT RPT NOT KNOW
TENOR OF DISCUSSIONS LATTER TWO SUBJECTS BUT
SAID THAT SAQQAF'S POSITION RE FEDAYEEN WAS HELPFUL
TO GOL AND THAT FRANGIE HAD INDICATED HE WAS "RELIEVED"
RE SADAT-FEISAL TALKS.
GODLEY

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